



Report submitted to Global giving August 2021



Above: The Group of girls making and packaging pads under our current Marianne Empowerment program (Global Development Group project).

Marianne Foundation for Youth Development (MFYD) is an indigenous, community based non profit organization, registered by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Uganda. We use rights-based approaches in our programming whereby communities identify their own challenges and through Rural Performance Appraisal, we agree with communities what role they can play in solving their own challenges and we work to identify partners who can help us help these communities live better. In our work, we relate the challenges that affect communities and encourage the communities to believe that it's their right to get access to what they do not have. The communities are always encouraged to take the first step towards solving their challenges. This has created a bottom up planning for all our projects. Our projects are community driven, centered around women and adolescents and aim to empower at the community levels! Our projects include: skilling centers for girls, menstrual health and reproductive health education, producing and distributing reusable menstrual pads, making liquid soaps and hygiene education throughout COVID-19, etcetera. We work with local and international partners, donors and volunteers to make these projects realities. Join us to fight for community-level public health change and empowerment! OUR VISION Marianne Foundation envisions an economically independent community sustaining itself through utilization and conservation of its own resources. OUR MISSION To empower rural youth, girls and young women to lead their communities in innovating appropriate solutions to their challenges through mobilization, training and strong partnership development. All of our projects are implemented and kept record of by Ugandans, who are familiar with the area, local customs, languages and social stigmas that may help or impede upon this work. This Ugandan-driven, community-led initiative is critical to ensure sustainability, empowerment and utilization of local materials and customs. We currently emphasize 3 focus areas towards women empowerment:

1. Building capacity of women in agriculture for both household food security and household income, by working with women farmer groups We train them in agriculture education, provide some inputs and link them to relevant services like agriculture training centers, and marketing groups. Hope Seeds EA has already trained 120 women in vegetable growing and 10 women are set to benefit in the Widow Support project.

2. Building entrepreneurship skills among the women and encouraging the women to work in groups so as to save and be loanable We do this by training the women in entrepreneurship skills and encourage them to save as a group then we train them on how to manage their savings and lending activities. So far we have 2000 women mobilized in the village savings and loaning association, we also have women

registered under Ibanda Marianne Women Craft making cooperative Society. They make crafts and sell them

3. Young girls' skills development This targets girls who have dropped out of school due to existing economic challenges, social challenges and cultural differences where education of boys is favored above girls. We bring those girls and empower them with applicable life skills. We train these girls in marketable skills such as tailoring, garment cutting and hairdressing. They are also trained in making items that solve challenges facing girls in and out of school. Currently, we are setting up a pads factory to both employ the targeted 20 girls and address the lack of pads, a factor that leads to girls' lower attendance and completely dropping out of school.

Since March 2021, we have been able to make 200 pads and these have been distributed to 100 women in the refugee settlement.

We have got a new funding from Global Development Group to train and distribute more pads to schools









